[*Translation*]

Arson in Ludhiana

1715. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed and seriously injured in the incident of arson in Ludhiana during October, 1991;

(b) the main causes that led to this incident and the action taken by the Government so far against the persons responsible; and

(c) the relief/compensation provided to the dependents of the deceased and to the injured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) According to available information, 61 persons were killed in the incident of arson in Ludhiana in October, 1991.

(b) It was caused by a cracker and spread in a number of shops.

(c) District Administration has taken required steps to provide relief measures to the victims.

[*English*]

Discontinuation of Burmese Language Broadcast on Current Affairs by A.I.R.

1716. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have discontinued the Burmese language broadcast on current affairs in A.I.R.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(C) the reasons for this discontinuance and when it is going to be revived?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTINGS (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Losses Suffered by State Electricity Boards

1717. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loss suffered by various State Electricity Boards during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve the functioning of these boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) According to the available information, the combined approximate loss suffered by various State Electricity Boards, after taking into account RE subsidy, during the last three years is as follows:-

(*Year ended March*)		(*Rs. in crores*)
1988	:	275.29
1989	:	343.07
1990	:	623.94

(b) The State Governments have been urged from time to time to manage the operations of the Electricity Boards in such a